

Message Text

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62

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DRAFTED BY EUR/NE:SPDAWKINS:BAS (REVISED MESSAGE FROM WHIT

APPROVED BY EUR - MR. STABLER

EUR/NE - MR. BUELL

S/S - WHLUERS

WHITE HOUSE - MR. CLIFT (DRAFT)

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P 252324Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 136893

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: DA SGEN

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE FOR REBILD FESTIVAL

REF: COPENHAGEN 1402, 1730

1. BEGIN TEXT: DANISH-AMERICAN TIES ARE NEARLY AS OLD AS THE REPUBLIC ITSELF. THE FIRST AMERICAN CONSUL TOOK UP RESIDENCE IN COPENHAGEN IN 1792. TODAY, DURING THE CELEBRATION OF REBILD 1974, WE STAND ONLY TWO YEARS AWAY FROM THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE AMERICAN DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE. IT GIVES ME SPECIAL PLEASURE, THEREFORE, TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY, ON THE 198TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR INDEPENDENCE, TO EXTEND THE GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO OUR FRIENDS IN DENMARK.

THE MERE FACT THAT OUR GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS HAVE REMAINED CLOSE SINCE 1792 IS LESS IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, THAN THE SOLID CONTRIBUTION WHICH THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS OF DANISH HERITAGE HAVE MADE TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND ENRICHMENT OF THE UNITED STATES. THESE MEN AND WOMEN, WHILE BECOMING OUTSTANDING MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY, STILL MAINTAINED STURDY ROOTS IN DANISH SOIL. WE OWE
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THEM OUR GRATITUDE FOR CONTRIBUTING TO OUR MUTUAL TIES,

AND INDEED FOR THE CREATION OF REBILD ITSELF.

MY OWN VISIT TO THE REBILD FESTIVAL 12 YEARS AGO
REMAINS A TREASURED PERSONAL MEMORY. I HOPE THAT THE
FESTIVAL'S EMPHASIS ON OUR COMMON GOALS WILL CONTINUE
TO BEAR FRUIT, AND THUS CONTRIBUTE FURTHER TO MAKING
POSSIBLE A PEACEFUL WORLD IN WHICH HUMAN DIGNITY AND
UNDERSTANDING WILL TRIUMPH OVER THE FORCES OF DIVISION
AND CONFLICT. END TEXT.

2. REGRET DELAY. SISCO

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